

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 13, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 19, paragraph number [0055] with the word 'In' and ends on line 32 with the word 'sensors' with the following amended paragraph:

In other words, sensors 52A-52C control the processing flow through biological scanner 30. First sensor 52A detects the growth plate and initiates the process of drawing growth plate 12 into biological sensor. Second sensor 52B detects growth plate 12 at a first scanning position and causes imaging to occur. After imaging, growth plate 12 is drawn further into biological scanner [[10]] 30. Third sensor 52C then detects growth plate 12 at a second scanning position and causes imaging to occur again. Growth plate 12 is then ejected from biological scanner 30. Numerous other sensor arrangements could also be defined. In general, the set of sensors 52 facilitate automated intake and processing of biological growth plates by detecting the location of a growth plate and causing actions to occur at proper times so that desired images of the growth plate can be generated, including an image of indicia carried by the growth plate and an image of the growth area of the growth plate. In other embodiments, however, imaging device 32 (FIG. 3) may be used to facilitate the detection and positioning of the growth plate, instead of sensors.